Three convicts of Wagah border suicide attack acquitted

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The Lahore High Court on Tuesday set aside death penalty of three convicts in a 2014 suicide attack at Wagah border.

A division bench headed by Justice Syed Shahbaz Ali Rizvi allowed the appeals of the convicts – Haseenullah Haseena, Habibullah and Syed Jan alias Gajni – and acquitted them.

The convicts were accused of facilitating the suicide bombers.

According to the prosecution, at least 55 citizens were martyred and 110 were injured in the terrorist attack at Wagah border.

A prosecutor argued that the convicts did not deserve any leniency and their death sentences should be upheld.

On the other hand, the counsel for the appellants argued that the terrorist attack occurred in 2014, and the appellants were nominated in the case nine months later.

They said the prosecution failed to produce any witness or evidence to prove the charge of facilitation against the appellants. They said the trial court had unjustly awarded the death penalty to the appellants in 2020.

The defence asked the high court to set aside the death sentences and acquit the appellants.

Advocate Akram Qureshi represented Habibullah, while Raja Nadeem presented arguments on behalf of other appellants.

The bench allowed the appeals and acquitted the alleged facilitators for insufficient witnesses and lack of evidence.

Batapur police had registered an FIR of the the Wagah border suicide attack.

Govt to file defamation case against journalist, says Azma

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The Punjab government on Tuesday said that it would file a defamation case against a journalist in the Defamation Tribunal for maligning Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz through 'fake news'.

Punjab Information Minister Azma Bokhari said that she, at the behest of CM Maryam, would file a defamation case in the recently-established Defamation Tribunal against reporter Ahmad Faraz for running 'fake news' about purported talk between CM Maryam and Hamza, the son of PM Shehbaz Sharif.

"In a social media programme with another journalist Azaz Syed, Ahmad Faraz presented a concocted story of a telephone call between Maryam and Hamza in the Teefi Butt matter. Now, this man (Faraz) will have to present proof of his claim in the court and also tell the name of the person(s) who provided him this fake information," Ms Bokhari said.

Talking to *Dawn,* Ahmad Faraz said that he had talked about the merits of police encounters based on the information from his sources.

"I have not committed defamation," Mr Faraz said.

The prime suspect in the Ameer Balaj murder case, Khwaja Tareef alias Teefi Butt, was allegedly shot dead by the firing of his own accomplices during an encounter with the Crime Control Department (CCD) near the Sindh-Punjab border in Rahim Yar Khan district last month.

LAHORE: Sikh pilgrims cross Wagah border to attend celebrations of the Baba Guru Nanak's birth anniversary. — White Star / M. Arif

Pak-India people-to-people contacts revived first time since May conflict

Over 2,000 Indian Sikh pilgrims enter Pakistan for Guru Nanak's birth anniversary celebrations

By Zulqernain Tahir

LAHORE: First people-to-people contact between Pakistan and India was made on Tuesday about six months after the four-day Pak-India armed conflict in May as over 2,000 Indian Sikhs entered Pakistan via Wagah border to take part in the festivities related to the 556th birth anniversary of Baba Guru Nanak Dev.

Pakistan Sikh Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (PSGPC) head and Punjab Minorities Minister Sardar Ramesh Singh Arora, Evacuee Trust Property Board (ETPB) Chairman Dr Sajid Mahmood Chauhan, Additional Secretary (Shrines) Nasir Mushtaq and other officials received the Indian pilgrims at the Wagah check post.

Tensions remain high between New Delhi and Islamabad after deadly clashes in May, following the Pahalgam terror attack. Both countries took several measures in April and May 2025 that led to a significant downgrading of relations and many of these remain in place despite a ceasefire. India issued no visas to Hindu and Sikh pilgrims to attend different events in Pakistan during the last six months. However, on the pressure of the Sikh community, the Modi government finally allowed 'selected' groups to travel for a 10-day festival to celebrate the birth anniversary of the founder of Sikh faith in Pakistan. Subsequently, the Pakistan government issued visas to 2,150 Indian Sikhs to attend Baba Guru Nanak's birthday anniversary.

The ETPB and PSGPC arranged a grand welcome reception for the visiting Sikhs. Talking to reporters at Wagah, Akal Takht leader Kaldeep Singh Gargaj said the Sikh pilgrims were very happy to come to Pakistan.

"Pakistanis always treated Sikh pilgrims with great respect," he said.

Group leader Ravinder Singh from the Delhi Gurdwara Management Committee and members of the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee also thanked the government for issuing visas and said that Pakistan was the land of their Gurus and was deeply cherished by the Sikh community. They urged both the governments to lift visa restrictions so that the people from both sides could visit their holy places without any hurdle.

Additional Secretary (Shrines) Nasir Mushtaq said foolproof security arrangements had been made for the Indian guests.

"Teams from the ETPB, district representatives and the PSGPC are dedicated to serving the pilgrims. Transport and other facilities are being provided, along with medical desks, while Rescue 1122 teams and medical staff will accompany the bus convoys," he said and added that all major gurdwaras in Punjab, including the Janamasthan and Kartarpur Sahib, had been beautifully decorated with lights.

At Wagah border, the Sikh pilgrims exchanged currency, received bus tickets and were issued computerised identity cards by the ETPB. The main ceremony of Baba Guru Nanak birth anniversary will be held on Wednesday (today) at Gurdwara Janamasthan at Nankana Sahib. A large number of Sikhs coming from other countries and within Pakistan will perform their religious rituals.

A special 'Palki Sahib' procession will also be taken out according to the Sikh customs, which will pass through its designated routes.

ETPB spokesperson Ghulam Mohyuddin said around 2,000 Sikhs arrived in Lahore via Wagah. He said after completing immigration and customs formalities, the pilgrims departed for Gurdwara Janamasthan, Nankana Sahib, by special buses. During their 10-day stay, he said the Indian Sikhs would also visit Gurdwara Panja Sahib, Hassanabdal, Gurdwara Sacha Sauda, Farooqabad, and Gurdwara Darbar Sahib, Kartarpur. On Nov 13, the Sikh pilgrims will return to their homeland.

Jaffar Express operation to continue despite attacks, says minister

By Khalid Hasnain

LAHORE: Federal Minister for Railways Hanif Abbasi pledged to continue the Jaffar Express train operation to and from Balochistan despite attacks by the proxies of the neighbouring country.

"Our enemy (India) is attacking us again and again through its proxies, but we will never ever be afraid of them," the minister said while talking to *Dawn* on Tuesday evening.

Mr Abbasi said the country's brave armed forces killed, in Afghanistan, the mastermind of the fatal terrorist attack on Jaffar Express.

Earlier, while speaking at a ceremony on the passing out of the recruits of Pakistan Railways Police in Lahore, the minister said the country's enemy tried hard to create fear, but none of the PR officials, FC and other security agencies bothered.

He appreciated the PR police IG for ensuring merit in the recruitment of 1,500 new constables and officials in various cadres. "At this moment, we should not forget the martyrdom of the PR police's 37 officials," he recalled.

Later, the minister also visited the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry (LCCI) and spoke to the business community there.

Mr Abbasi said that the entire rail network, including the railway stations, were being upgraded and 400km of new track was being laid and 484km were being uplifted. He said that Rs2 billion had been allocated for upgrading the Lahore–Rawalpindi single track, with plans to reduce travel time between both cities to 2.5 hours.

"Development works are underway at major stations including Lahore, Karachi, Faisalabad, Rawalpindi, and Rohri. Approval for the Rohri–Karachi upgrade worth Rs2 billion will be granted in July. The Narowal section and Lodhran station are also being uplifted, while a 2,500km plantation from Shahdara to Raiwind will help improve the environment," he explained.

"Coal trains are being increased while PR will ensure efficient transportation of industrial materials, including the Reko Diq production," he said, adding that for the uplift of railways in Balochistan, Rs3.5 billion had been released.

LCCI President Faheem-ur-Rehman Saigol said that upgrading railway lines was a welcoming and critically important step. He said that the state-owned enterprises had massive potential, but weak governance caused annual losses of Rs800 to 900 billion.

He said that Pakistan's economy had derailed and in such conditions, it was essential to strengthen the transportation sector, because transport was the oxygen of any economy. Industrial zones must be connected with the railway network to reduce logistics costs and make exports competitive, he advised.

PAKISTAN RAILWAYS
Pakistan Railways, Headquarters Office, Lahore

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR OPERATIONALIZATION OF SHAHEENABAD BALLAST QUARRY

Chief Engineer/Open Line, Pakistan Railways Headquarters Office, Lahore invites Expression of Interest for operationalization of Shaheenabad ballast quarry from the eligible bidders/Firms (individual/joint venture) who are registered with PEC in relevant category i.e. C-3 or above and specialization codes in CE-10 category, cleared from Sales & Income Tax department and active on ATL of FBR, on Single **Stage Two Envelope** Basis as per Revised PPRA Rules.

A complete EOI document containing the detailed scope of work, eligibility criteria, and other terms and conditions in this regard may be downloaded from EPADS platform (**https://eprocure.gov.pk**). The EPADS Tender No. **F-251094772.**

The expression of interest, prepared in accordance with the instructions in the EOI documents, must be submitted on EPADS platform (**https://eprocure.gov.pk**) alongwith other necessary documents and one hardcopy of EOI (in separate sealed envelopes for technical & financial proposals) be also submitted till **27th November, 2025 at 12:00 Hrs.** No proposal/EOI shall be entertained if not applied through EPADS. The technical proposal of EOI will be opened on same date at 12:30 Hrs in the office of Deputy Chief Engineer/North, Pakistan Railways, Headquarters Office, Lahore. Financial proposals of only technically qualified firms will be opened for which time and date will be communicated to qualified firms accordingly.

This advertisement is also available on PPRA website at **www.ppra.org.pk** and Pakistan Railways website **www.pakrail.gov.pk.**

The EOI does not constitute a solicitation. A bid or proposal is not required at this stage; Pakistan Railways is only seeking expression of interest from reputed firms to participate in a potential future tender. A response to this request for Expression of Interest does not mean that the firm will be selected to participate in the tender. Pakistan Railways reserves the rights to change or cancel the requirement at any time during the EOI or tender process. Pakistan Railways also reserves the rights to require compliance with additional conditions as and when issuing the final tender document. Pakistan Railways reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals in accordance with PPRA Rules-33. **PID (L) 1184/25**

(Rizwan Javed Cheema)
Dy. CEN/North
for Chief Engineer
Ph# 042-99201763

ریلوے لائن کو صرف ریلوے کراسنگ سے احتیاط سے پار کریں۔

NED UNIVERSITY OF ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY
Director Procurement
PROCUREMENT CELL
University Road, Karachi-75270
Tel: 99261261– 68, (Ext. 2220) Fax # 99261255,
Email: dp@neduet.edu.pk Website: http://www.neduet.edu.pk
Ref: No. PC/NED/RG/172367/8395/612 Date: 04.11.2025

SAY NO TO CORRUPTION

NOTICE INVITING TENDER
(Through EPADS)

NEDUET invites Sealed Bids on "Single Stage Two Envelope" procedure from reputed Courier Companies for acquiring of courier services as follows:

Hiring of Courier Services for NED University of Engineering & Technology.

Tender No. PC/NED/RG/ Courier Services /8395/2025

Issuance of Documents from	Last Date of Issuance of Tender Documents	Tenders Submission Deadline	Tenders Opening Date / Time
07-11-2025	24-11-2025	25.11.2025 10:00 AM	25.11.2025 10:30 AM

E-Bidding documents as per regulations, containing detailed terms and conditions, and requirements are available for online bid submission on EPADS at **https://portalsindh.eprocure.gov.pk.** Bidding Documents are also available on the official website of the university **https://www.neduet.edu.pk.**

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

(i) Registration with FBR and SRB
(ii) At-least three years' experience in the relevant field with documentary evidences.
(iii) Financial Statements (Summary) and Income Tax Returns for the last three years.
(iv) Annual Turnover of last three years and average of last three years should not be less than Rs 50 million.
(v) Affidavit on (non-judicial stamp paper) of no litigation history, non-blacklisting, never indulge in any corrupt, fraudulent and collusive practices, also undertaking that the information and documents provided with are correct.

Bid Security @ 5% of bid cost in shape of Payorder should be in favor of Director Finance, NEDUET. The procuring agency reserves the right to reject any or all bids subject to relevant provisions of SPP Rules 2010 (as amended) and may cancel the bidding process at any time prior to the acceptance of a bid or proposal as per SPPRA rules.

Director Procurement

PPHI SINDH
Redefining Primary Healthcare
TENDER NOTICE
Hiring of rented vehicles for PPHI employees for the Head Office (Pick & Drop)

PPHI SINDH is not for for-profit organization, registered under section 42 of the Companies Act 2017, and invites sealed bids for the Hiring of "Rented vehicles for PPHI employees for the Head Office (Pick & Drop)" from interested bidders having relevant experience on a **Single Stage - Two Envelope Bidding Procedure**

A complete set of bidding documents containing basic eligibility and evaluation criteria and terms and conditions may be obtained from the Head office of PPHI SINDH Karachi by submitting a pay order of amount Rs. 1,000 in the name of PPHI SINDH (Non-refundable) on submission of the application.

Description	Bid Security	Date & Time for Submission of Bids	Date & Time for Opening of Bids	Address for Receiving of Tender Documents & Submission of Bids
Hiring of rented vehicles for PPHI employees for the Head Office (Pick & Drop)	1% of bid price	20th November 2025 Thursday at 2:30 PM	20th November 2025 Thursday at 3:30 PM	Procurement Wing & Conference Hall, Respectively C-27/1 Block-2 Clifton, Near Umer Sharif Park Karachi

1. The tender documents will be issued from **5-11-2025 to 19-11-2025** during working days **(10.00 AM to 4:00 PM)** at the address given above.
2. The bid will be opened publicly in the presence of bidders or their authorized representative who choose to be present as per given schedule given above.
3. In case of announcement of a Public Holiday or any unfavorable circumstances, the tenders/bids will be submitted and opened on the next working day. Other terms & Conditions, venue, and time will remain the same as mentioned in this Notice.
4. All bids shall include applicable Govt taxes, and these will be deducted from the bills/invoices, according to the Govt. Rules/Policy.
5. Bid Security **@ 1%** of the total value of the bid/contract must be submitted by the firms in the form of Pay Order/Demand Draft and must be attached with **"Financial Bid"** in favour of PPHI SINDH; otherwise bid will not be considered and will be treated as non-responsive and rejected.

PPHI SINDH HEAD OFFICE
C-27/1, Block-2, Clifton, Near Umer Sharif Park, Karachi.
Phone: 021-35872214/35364045